

What Is Claimed Is:

- 1 1. A portable user appliance for receiving a digital
2 video stream embedded in a vertical blanking interval of a broadcast
3 television signal comprising:
4 a television tuner for receiving the over-the-air broadcast
5 signal;
6 a vertical blanking interval frame grabber for receiving the
7 digital video stream;
8 a digital decompressor for decompressing said digital video
9 stream into a decompressed video stream;
10 a display displaying the decompressed video stream.
- 1 2. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 1
2 further comprising a cradle coupled to a first antenna, said cradle
3 receiving said portable user appliance.
- 1 3. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 2
2 wherein said cradle is disposed within an automotive vehicle.
- 1 4. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 2
2 further comprising a second antenna coupled to said cradle, said first and
3 second antenna coupled to a control circuit for determining a first signal
4 strength of said first signal and a second signal strength of said second
5 signal and comparing the first signal strength to the second signal strength
6 and coupling the greater of the first signal strength and the second signal
7 strength to said portable user device.

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1 5. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said timer, said frame grabber, and said display are coupled
3 within a personal digital assistant.

1 6. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 1
2 wherein said timer, said frame grabber, and said display are coupled
3 within a cellular phone.

1 7. A portable user appliance for receiving a digital
2 video stream embedded in excess bandwidth of an over-the-air digital
3 broadcast television signal comprising:

4 a television tuner receiving the over-the-air digital broadcast
5 signal;

6 an excess bandwidth frame grabber for receiving the digital
7 video stream;

8 a digital decompressor for decompressing said digital video
9 stream into a decompressed video stream;

10 a display displaying the decompressed video stream.

1 8. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 7
2 further comprising a cradle coupled to a first antenna, said cradle
3 receiving said portable user appliance.

1 9. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 8
2 wherein said cradle is disposed within an automotive vehicle.

1 10. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 9
2 further comprising a second antenna coupled to said cradle, said first and
3 second antenna coupled to a control circuit for determining a first signal
4 strength of said first signal and a second signal strength of said second

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5 signal and comparing the first signal strength to the second signal strength
6 and coupling the greater of the first signal strength and the second signal
7 strength to said portable user device.

1 11. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 10
2 wherein said timer; said frame grabber; said display are coupled within a
3 personal digital assistant.

1 12. A portable user appliance as recited in claim 7
2 wherein said timer; said frame grabber; said display are coupled within a
3 cellular phone.

1 13. A method of operating a portable user device
2 comprising the steps of:
3 receiving over-the-air analog broadcast signals with an
4 antenna;
5 receiving a digital video stream within the vertical blanking
6 interval;
7 decompressing said digital video stream into a
8 decompressed video stream; and
9 displaying the decompressed video stream.

1 14. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein the step of
2 receiving over-the-air analog broadcast signals with an antenna comprises
3 receiving over-the-air analog broadcast signals with an automobile
4 antenna.

1 15. A method of operating a portable user device
2 comprising the steps of:

- 3 receiving the over-the-air broadcast digital broadcast signals
- 4 with an antenna;
- 5 receiving a digital video stream within excess bandwidth of
- 6 the digital broadcast signals;
- 7 decompressing said digital video stream into a
- 8 decompressed video stream; and
- 9 displaying the decompressed video stream.

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